

30 Aug 2023

Dear Colleague, Dear Community Stakeholder
Surrey County Division of Lower Sunbury & Halliford

Launch of NetZero Sunbury & Halliford

I am writing to you as your county councillor at a time when we face a challenge that affects not only our community but the entire planet: climate change. Its effects are already being felt worldwide, from extreme weather events to rising sea levels. However, we hold the power to make a significant impact and adapt to these changes.

Sunbury Village and Halliford Village are more than just a collection of houses and streets; they're thriving communities filled with passionate individuals who deeply care about the places we call home. In Sunbury & Halliford, rising global temperatures forecast hotter summers and milder winters, alongside an increased risk of flooding along the River Thames. Climate change is a global challenge that requires local solutions. It's time for us to act, and it starts with raising awareness and making informed choices. As a member of our vibrant Sunbury community, I believe that together, we can reduce our carbon footprint, protect our environment, and ensure a better quality of life for generations to come.

As your local county councillor, I am committed to actively collaborating on minimizing the environmental impact of climate change in the Lower Sunbury and Halliford division. In close partnership with local environmental groups and i-NoCarbon, a local consulting firm in Sunbury, we are launching the '**NetZero Sunbury & Halliford**' project, which aims to raise awareness about climate change, its consequences, and effective strategies for reducing our ecological footprint in the area.

To facilitate our journey towards a more sustainable future, we will be launching an awareness survey in our local magazines (Sunbury Matters and Shepperton Matters) and on social media platforms such as Facebook. This awareness survey aims to assess our community's understanding of climate change and share practical tips for eco-friendly living. The insights gained from this survey will help prioritise efforts and allocate resources in our villages to support Surrey's vision for 2030 - where Surrey residents live in clean, safe, and green communities. In these communities, it will help people and organizations embrace their environmental responsibilities and assist the local community in making informed decisions about energy usage, water waste management, and the creation of a green environment. Surrey's 2020 Climate Change Strategy aligns with the UK government's goals of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

Your input is invaluable, and I encourage you to actively participate in this awareness survey. By doing so, you contribute to shaping our shared future. Thank you for your dedication to our community and the planet in regard to climate change.

I invite you and your organisation to get involved, share your thoughts, ideas, and suggestions. Your input is vital as we embark on this journey toward a greener future. Together, we can inspire positive change and make a significant impact on our environment.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Buddhi Weerasinghe', written over a horizontal line.

Buddhi Weerasinghe
County Councillor